draw gas on fallback basis also up to a maximum of 12 MMSCMD, to further increase their PLF. The gas based generation during April to November, 2009 increased to 62,036 Million Unit (provisional) as compared to 59,430 Million Unit during April to November, 2008, representing a growth of approximately 31.4%.

(d) Following measures have been taken/are being taken by the Government to cope with the power demands:

(i) Rigorous monitoring of capacity addition of the on-going generation projects.

(ii) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.

(iii) Import of coal by the power utilities to bridge the gap between requirement of coal and its supply from the domestic sources.

(iv) Allocation of gas from KG Basin (D6) has been made for gas based power stations in the country.

(v) Harnessing surplus power from captive power plants into Grid.

(vi) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW each to reap benefits of economies of scale.

(vii) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units.

(viii) Strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution network through Acceleration Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) as a major step towards loss reduction.

(ix) Import of power from hydro power stations located in Bhutan.

Status of hydel projects

3517. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several hydel projects in the northern parts of the country are on the brink of closure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the firms operating these projects have sought easier regulatory terms and incentives;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether, in the absence of providing easier regulatory terms and incentives to hydel projects, the power generation has been affected; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and further steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) No hydro-electric power project having station capacity of more than 25 MW in the Northern parts of the country being monitored by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is facing any closure.

(c) and (d) The Government has not received any such request.

(e) and (f) Power generation has not been affected due to absence of providing easier regulatory terms and incentives to hydel power projects.

Use of IPO proceeds by NHPC

3518. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) is facing problems in depositing Rs. 4,000 crores collected through IPOs due to guidelines of public sector enterprises;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that NHPC is using interest component in view of these guidelines;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) whether other PSUs which are coming with IPOs would also face the same problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) NHPC has intimated that they are not facing any problem in depositing the IPO proceeds as per the guidelines of investment of Public Sector Enterprises, which provide for deposit in bank on Card rates. These guidelines do not provide for competitive bidding which could fetch higher rates of interest for the deposit/investment and to the extent there is loss in interest. However, the same can not be quantified.

(d) The guidelines circulated by the Government will apply equally in all cases of IPO proceeds of Public Sector Undertakings. No such problem of utilizing IPO proceeds is envisaged for power sector CPSUs proposing an Initial Public Offer/Follow-on Public Offer.

Power station in RVUN

3519. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the reasons for including both thermal power stations of Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN) in the list of power stations identified for importing coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): Against the requirement of 404 Million Tonne coal for the power utilities for the year 2009-10, the